

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows, without prejudice.

In the Specification:

✓
Insert the following on page 1, line 4.

--Background of the Invention--

✓
Insert the following on Page 2, line 16:

--Summary of the Invention--

✓
Insert the following on Page 5, line 1:

--Brief Description of the Drawings--

✓
Insert the following on Page 5, line 20:

--Detailed Description of the Invention--

In the Abstract:

✓
Please add the following Abstract to the application.

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--A system is disclosed for transfer printing of a motif lifted from a transfer film to a receiving strip to form a product. The system synchronises the transfer film and the receiving strip at a transfer station at the point of transfer. The system includes a film driver, a strip driver and a controller for controlling the strip and film drivers.--

In the Claims:

(Clean copy of amended claims)

✓
Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) System of transfer printing, in particular gilding, a motif lifted from a transfer film by a die, which is to be affixed on a receiving strip to form a product, the transfer film and the receiving strip being synchronised at the transfer station at the instant of transfer, comprising:

- means for driving the transfer film,
- means for driving the receiving strip,

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a transfer station having a transfer means,
control means controlling the film drive means, the strip drive means and the transfer means, whereby the film drive means feeds the film forward by a first step corresponding to the motif to be transferred and the strip drive means feeds said strip forward by a second step of the product in readiness for each transfer.

2. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transfer means includes a transfer element which is activated by a jack, the control means immobilising the film and the strip during the time the transfer is being operated.

3. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transfer means comprises at least one transfer element mounted on a rotary element; and wherein the film drive means and the strip drive means are controlled so as to drive the film and the receiving strip at substantially the same speed as the peripheral speed of the transfer element during the time the transfer is being operated.

4. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a first detector assigned to the strip to detect the second step of the product and supply a signal to the control means for managing the forward movement of the strip; and wherein the strip includes pre-printed markers designed to be read by the first detector.

5. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second detector assigned to the film to detect the motif of the film and supply a signal to the control means for managing the film drive means.

6. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein the film drive means and the strip drive means are controlled in a manner selected from a group consisting of both operated step by step, one operated step by step and the other continuously, and both operated continuously.

7. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are a plurality of film drive means, disposed in parallel, for driving a plurality of films so that several motifs can be transferred to the receiving strip substantially simultaneously.

8. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transfer means includes a transfer cylinder, which prints successive motifs with an offset in order to reduce overlapping thicknesses when the strip is stored after the transfer.

9. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 8, wherein the transfer cylinder includes transfer elements that are distributed around a cylinder with a circular section in an offset arrangement following a line corresponding to the intersection of the cylinder by an inclined plane.

10. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 8, wherein the transfer cylinder includes transfer elements are designed to apply to the strip polychromatic motifs, holographic motifs and zones intended to permit binary recordings, the material for this purpose being lifted from the transfer strip.

11. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transfer elements are designed to apply to the strip an antenna of various shapes and dimensions in order to optimise the effect of a magneto-restrictive coating with a thickness of approximately 25 to 900 Angström, designed to resonate in an alternating electromagnetic field generated at a selected frequency between approximately 73 and 530 Hz and which will cause no resonance when deactivated.

12. (Amended) System as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transfer elements are designed to enable the transfer of various shapes and dimensions of printed circuits having insulating and conductive layers, at least one chip in order to transfer onto the strip an antenna capable of recording, calculating and emitting for providing an intelligent marker.

REMARKS